

THE CIVILIAN

A FORTNIGHTLY JOURNAL
DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS
OF THE
CIVIL SERVICE OF CANADA

FEATURES

Address by Commissioner Shortt (Concluded).
The Roll of Honour.
Mother Love,—by Jack Cadden.
The Little Window,—by G.R.
Editorial,—From Ilium to Ithaca.
“Once More Unto the Breach.”
Reports of Associations.
With the 2nd Contingent.
A Letter from the Front.
Personals,—Appointments, etc.

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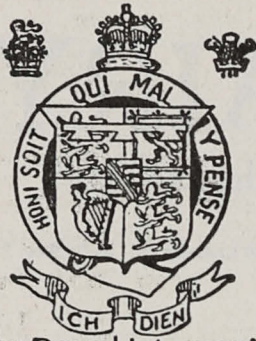
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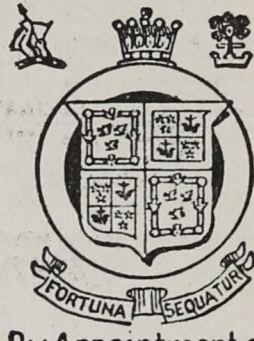
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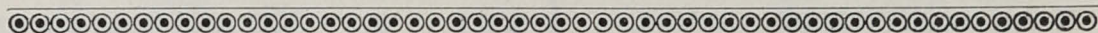
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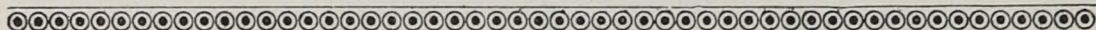
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THE CIVILIAN

VOL. VII.

MARCH 19, 1915.

No. 24

ADDRESS BY COMMISSIONER SHORTT.

(Concluded.)

Passing to the next division, the second, we find that it comes partly within and partly without the nominative system that applies in the lower grade. In the case of Second Division B, the great majority of the appointments are the result of the open competitive examination for that grade. In the case of the grades 2A and 1B and 1A, all the appointments from the outside come under these two possible conditions—either open competition, in which case the position is advertised and is open to all comers, or by nomination on the part of the departments. Now, I am talking frankly and freely, and when I speak of the action of the Government it is not a party question, because what I say applies to one Government as well as to the other. If nearly all the lower grade positions are examples of pure patronage, the higher grade positions are seldom so. A good deal more than half of these higher positions are filled by open competition. The department says to us: 'Find us the best man you can for this position'—it may be an engineer, a chemist, a geologist, an accountant, a translator, and so on. The sense of responsibility on the part of the departments, whether under the late Government or under the present, is far greater in relation to the higher grades than to the lower. Nevertheless even in these cases there is a certain fight to be put up. Sometimes an individual who has the favor of a minister thinks that the approval of the Civil Service Com-

mission for his appointment is a mere matter of putting on a stamp. And when he finds that it is not exactly like that, you can imagine what he thinks of the commission. He goes back to the minister and gives a lurid account of how we blocked his appointment; and the minister may think himself entitled to join with the dissatisfied party and fan the flame of his resentment. So that our reputation with such applicants is likely to be not worth much.

Examinations.

"Now, a word or two about the making of these higher appointments. We get alternative criticism. Some people who think they can pass examinations say we do not hold enough written examinations; those who cannot pass examinations say that the examination system is nonsense, that a man's appointment should not depend on whether he can or cannot give the pedigree of the King of Timbuctoo and answer other questions of that sort. We hold examinations for the third grade positions and for positions in 2B. But when it comes to appointments to special positions of a technical nature, I think that is not a place in which to use the written examination, unless you can set the parties down within the four walls of a room and have them do exactly the same thing that they will be asked to do in the Government service. Obviously, if the work to be done is translation, this form of examination is easy. When we had

to appoint 'Hansard' men for the House of Commons, we put the candidates in the gallery of the House while a debate was in progress and asked them to report three ten-minute sections of the speeches. We asked them also to pass a written examination in the constitutional history of the country, the theory of parliamentary institutions and other things which they must know in order to be able to do their work. We asked them to take a page or two of 'Hansard' and give us the gist of it in one-fifth or one-sixth the space. When it is a case of that kind, I say, we would have the candidates do in examination exactly what they are to do in the positions of the Service which they are to fill. But when it comes to the case of an engineer of the Transcontinental or Hudson Bay Railway, working in a department in which he has to pass on that sort of matter, obviously it is different. You cannot take the engineers who are candidates into a room and ask them to build a bridge, nor can you assemble those who seek a position as geologist and ask them to survey a section of the Rocky Mountains. In such cases we require that these men shall take an adequate technical course. In other words, they must be graduates of the scientific side of some recognized University or College in Canada, Great Britain or the United States. Occasionally, when we have no Canadian graduates who have been trained in the particular line to be filled, we have to get people outside, for the simple reason that there is nobody in the country who can do the work called for, or if there is, he is probably employed by some firm or company at \$10,000 to \$15,000 a year, while we offer only \$2,000 or \$3,000 a year.

"We ask all the applicants to pass an educational test, to furnish us with the degree taken at these uni-

versities, and the question of the equipment of the university for that work is one of the things taken into account. We then ask the applicant to account for his time from leaving the university up to the time he makes application; who employed him, at what work, and so on. We then write these people, stating that Mr. So-and-so, an applicant for such-and-such a position (usually including in the letter the advertisement of the position) claims to have worked with you, or under you, or for you, in such-and-such work, and in the interest of the country we ask you for reliable and truthful information about his career. If he has worked with two or three people we get two or three accounts; if he has worked with one, of course, we can only get one. We then get references as to his character and we verify all that he has said. We then ask usually: Under whom is this man to work, who is going to be particularly responsible for the work that he turns out?—because in the natural order of things that official will want to get the best assistant he possibly can. We therefore ask him to come down and go into these papers with us. We ask him—not, mark you, as a member of the department under the control of his minister or of his deputy—but as we ask our outside examiners, to come and examine the papers as a specialist in that line, who knows the work and what he wants. Now, in nineteen cases out of twenty, after we have gone over these applications together, we find that we have no difficulty in coming to the same conclusion. Occasionally, of course, 'A' may be first in one case and 'B' in another. Then we go into the matter and thrash it out. We take the sole responsibility for the appointment and announce it to the department. That is the process in open competition.

"Now, the alternative is nomina-

tion by the government. Nomination is not always the hunting up by the minister of the man who is on the right side of politics and can bring political influence to bear. Nominations are sometimes made after consultation with the Commission and full agreement as to the desirability of securing the services of the person to be nominated. Further, it is sometimes necessary to offer a position to a man in order to get him to take it, partly because there are few people in the country with that particular qualification and partly because the salary we have to offer is sometimes less than they are actually getting. . . .

Promotions.

"We are required to pass on promotions from the point of view of qualifications. When we came here we found that there was no organization in the Canadian service that regarded all the departments equally. Each department had gone on from time immemorial in its own way organizing things in complete disregard of other departments and their methods. We found, much to our dismay, that the same sort of work was paid \$2,500 in one department, \$1,500 in another, and \$800 or \$900 in another. We were asked to pass on promotions in those departments on an uneven basis. You see the difficulty of the situation. We were employed, and often employed a good deal, in trying to move up some and hold back others. When a department gets an appropriation for 25 or 30 promotions, one could not hold up the whole 25. We have been merely a sort of check or drag on this system. Patronage operates more steadily and persistently in promotions than in appointments.

The Educational Test.

"Finally, there is the question of education as a test for entering the Service or going forward in it. I had the greatest surprise of my life

when I came to Ottawa and found that education was regarded in so low a way in the Service—that is, by the vocal part of the Service. We have heard a great deal about the 'educational standard'. We have been told over and over again how ridiculous it is to ask a man to pass examinations on merely school subjects on entering the Service or going into a higher grade. We have been told that it is all nonsense, that it is not practicable, that it is not reasonable—we have had brought forward and repeated all the arguments that were used on this subject in the Stone Age. . . .

Value of Training.

"Nevertheless, the question remains as to the real justification for an educational standard. Is it that the examinations are supposed to test the qualifications of an individual to do the actual work that he is to be put at? Not at all. The education of the mind and character is a training in patience, in discipline of all kinds, mental and moral. A student who will stay at home and get up his work instead of going on the streets is going to be a far superior man. Read the conditions under which, when there were no facilities for education, the individuals who came to the front sat by the log fire or the tallow dip and worked out their education for themselves. Was that not discipline? These are the men who did great things. . . .

"We asked at one examination for twenty stenographers; we got two. Not because there were not twenty available, but because the salaries offered did not attract a sufficient number to qualify. Men can go outside, or take the lower-grade examination and get \$1,000 in the postal service under patronage, when they could not get more than \$500 if appointed in the Third Division. Some, however, go in at more than that.

Service Being Filled With Girls.

"What is the consequence? The Service is being filled up with girls. We ask for 20 men and we get 2, and we have to take the other 18 from the girls' list;—we always get enough girls. The Government ought to raise the minimum standard there.

Outside Service.

"We have the whole Outside Service to consider, and it is for the people of Canada to bring that Outside Service under some regular conditions.

A Low Standard.

"What is the common standard of education there? The same as we apply to messengers, packers and sorters in the inside service. If you write at all legibly, and can spell simple words, if you can do addition and subtraction, you do not need to know anything about multiplication and division. Because the standard is so low you may make a great many mistakes, and if you get over the hog line you get \$1,000 a year. When you pass the ten times heavier examination in the Inside Service, what do you get? Five hundred dollars, and have to live in Ottawa. The Second Division examination represents the same standard as matriculation for universities, though the percentage is not quite so high. How much do you get if you pass? Eight hundred dollars, and have to live in Ottawa also. If you were to go teaching in a country school you would get that and much more than that out West. Such, then, is the position of the Outside Service as compared to the Inside Service at the present time.

It Is Up to the Public.

"Doubtless I have already said enough to hang a dozen men from certain points of view. But this is not a matter of party politics. Anything I have said hits one party no more than the other. I have had many

Members of Parliament come and say: 'When will this blessed thing be got rid of?' and I reply: 'It is up to you people to do away with it.' Sometimes a Member says: 'I would like to see it done away with, but, of course, there are my workers back home; if I do that they will say I have been taking the bread out of their mouths. There are two classes of men coming to Parliament, those who come with the higher interests in the service of the country, and those who come because they have carefully worked the local machine. As I said, in our position we are apt to make enemies. It is difficult to determine just how sincere these enemies are. A man in private life ought to be known by the character of his friends; but in public life he should be known by the character of his enemies.'"

JAMES M. MACOUN, F.L.S.

James M. Macoun, C.M.G., of the Geological Survey has recently been elected a Fellow of the Linnean Society of London, the highest honor that can come to a working naturalist. The Linnean Society was incorporated by George III. in 1788 for the "Cultivation of the Science of Natural History" and from that time until the present it has held the first place among the Natural History Societies of the world, the reigning King of England being its patron. Its membership outside of Great Britain is restricted to fifty members and Mr. Macoun is the first native-born Canadian who has been honoured with a fellowship. He is also one of the three or four Canadians who are corresponding members of the Zoological Society of London, the membership of which, outside of Great Britain, is limited to two hundred.

The Roll of Honour.

Names,—more names,—for the Roll of Honour!

Every time the call is made more names come in, but the man who stays at home should not wait to be called upon to accord due honour to his friends who have gone to the front.

If you know of a civil servant who has answered the call of his King and Country, and are not certain whether his name has appeared in the Roll or not, send it in anyhow,—the editors will look out for duplications.

The Civilian would like to have some man in each "Overseas" unit, in each Department or large Branch in Ottawa, and in each Customs port, Inland Revenue District, City Post Office and Railway Mail Service District in Canada who will see that all the cases of civil servants enlisting for the war are reported for publication. Some of these fields are well covered; others are neglected, to the discredit of the stay-at-homes who withhold due honour from the boys who have gone to the front.

Send in the names,—one or a dozen. *The Civilian* wants them all.

SIXTEENTH LIST.

First Contingent.

Walter S. McKibbin, Inland Revenue, Edmonton, 19th Alberta Dragoons.
 E. E. Rickard, Customs, Calgary, 10th (Overseas) Battalion.
 S. R. Keeling, Customs, Calgary, 10th (Overseas) Battalion.
 J. H. Bannan, Customs, Medicine Hat.
 J. W. McClean, Customs, Medicine Hat.
 J. W. Dowding, Customs, Vancouver, 11th Irish Fusiliers.
 G. W. Hall, Customs, Vancouver, British Reservist.
 J. M. Lamond, Customs, Vancouver, 7th (Overseas) Battalion.
 H. C. Moore, Customs, Vancouver, 7th (Overseas) Battalion.

Second Contingent.

Sapper John McDonell, Geodetic Survey, 4th Field Co., Engineers.
 A. S. Bleakney, Customs, Ottawa, 21st (Overseas) Battalion.
 H. V. Rorke, Customs, Ottawa, 20th (Overseas) Battalion.
 A. P. Huggett, Inland Revenue, Victoria, B.C.
 M. L. E. Hudon, Inland Revenue, Montreal.
 F. C. Bowen, Inland Revenue, Sherbrooke.
 Geo. Johnson, Inland Revenue, Nanaimo.

MOTHER LOVE

By Jack Cadden.

Son o' mine, the night is dreary; ashen skies are bending o'er us,
 As the night wind in its sorrow sends its sigh across the plain;
 And my heart is cold and empty as the months that stretch before us,
 Yet I'm praying for you, laddie, over yonder by the Aisne.

Oh the days are dark without you, and the nights are filled with longing,
 (You can never know the sorrow that a mother's heart can bear);
 And at night the tingling darkness brings a thousand memories thronging
 From the days through which I watched you, with a tender, loving care.

When the sound of martial music worked its witchery upon us,
 And our village street resounded to the tramp of marching men;
 All the death and desolation for a time was hidden from us,
 And the thin veneer of glory screened the horror of the slain.

But to-night I know you're sleeping where the world is rent asunder,
 And it's little I am caring for the glory of it all;
 I can only see the ruin that is working over yonder,
 As the march of nations changes to a dismal funeral.

Oh it's little they are thinking of the mothers who are waiting,
 For the Dawn to spill its splendor o'er the rude, red hills of War;
 And it's little they are caring for the hearts in silence breaking,
 'Neath the hush that casts its shadow through the years that stretch before.

And I'm sure you hunger, laddie, for your native, fragrant prairies,
 The wind of old Saskatchewan that makes your pulses run;
 The quiet of the starry night, the sweep of the Auroras,
 The rest that yields its treasures when the honest day is done.

But I've given you to Britain, and I do not grudge the giving,
 (Her call across the Seven Seas shall never sound in vain);
 All my prayers are with you, laddie, where the world with strife is riven
 And the battle-smoke is drifting,—over yonder, by the Aisne.

THE LITTLE WINDOW.

Here, at this window, looking out,
 She heard afar the echoing shout,
 The voices of the distant drum
 And pealing fife proclaim: I come!

And from this window, looking down,
 Above the tumult of the town,
 She heard the marching step below
 That seemed to echo: Love, I go!

And, as a statue still and pale,
 Wide-eyed, where tears could not avail,
 Lip-locked she sat through hours alone,
 In her dumb sorrow turned to stone.

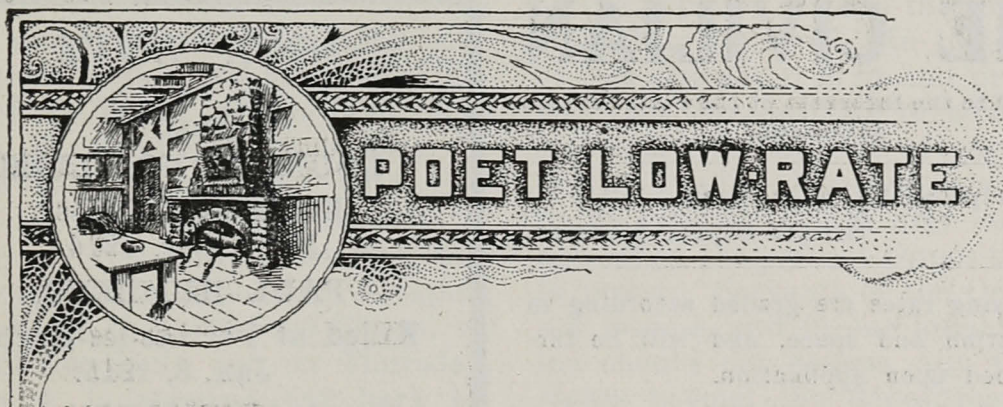
She did not mark the morning hours
 Slow striking from the tall gray towers,
 Nor heed the city's gathering hum
 That told another day had come.

But with her soul's prophetic eyes
 She saw another scene arise:
 Afar, a cruel, bloody plain,
 And knew he would not come again!

* * *

O, little window! Through the years
 Of bitter loneliness and tears,
 Is it not strange, in spite of fate
 She still will pray and watch and wait!

G. R.



“Stick.”

There are lots of folk to tell you that the thing cannot be done,
 That you're only wasting energy to try;
 But I've yet to see the thing that lies beneath the flaming sun
 That a man could not accomplish ere he die.
 If you'll only buckle in
 With a cheerful sort of grin
 Tho' it take you half a lifetime you are always bound to win.
 Perseverance does the trick,
 Tho' it's slow instead of quick,
 If you hang on like a barnacle, adhesively, and stick.

*Some insects they have golden wings
 And some have wings of flame;
 The flea, without a wing at all,
 He gets there just the same.*

The pessimist is always spreading gloom around the earth,
 It seems to be his one and only aim;
 He inherited his grouch from the moment of his birth
 And he holds the whole dinged universe to blame.
 But the fellow with the laugh
 Sees the glowing, sunny half
 Of existence, as he frolics like a young and care-free calf.
 Perseverance does the trick,
 Ain't no use to howl and kick,
 Be like ivy, when you grab a thing, hang on, adhere, and stick.

*You recall the Hare and Tortoise
 When they played their little game;
 Old Tort, tho' hardly built for speed,
 He got there just the same.*

Never make the rank admission that you cannot go and win,
 Make up your mind to grab the leading place;
 Just reverse the pessimistic view and turn it outside-in,
 Then sprint a bit, and try and win the race.
 For every time you view it
 You'll weep and wail and rue it
 'Less you grab the thing that can't be done and straightway go and do it.
 Perseverance does the trick,
 You could eat a yard of brick,
 If you'd only be an octopus and fasten on, and stick.

*Tho' the cow, with triple tummies
 —For which she is not to blame—
 Has to eat her meals twice over,
 Still, she gets there just the same.*

THE CIVILIAN

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of Canada.

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THE EDITORS,
THE CIVILIAN,
P. O. Box 484, Ottawa.

Ottawa, March 19, 1915.

SIR ROBERT BORDEN IN HALIFAX PLATFORM.

A thorough and complete re-formation of the laws relating to the Civil Service should be put into effect, so that future appointments shall be made by an independent commission acting upon the report of examiners after competitive examination. I am convinced that we shall perform a great public duty by establishing in this country that system which prevails in Great Britain, under which a member of Parliament has practically no voice in or control over any appointment to the Civil Service.

To use the power of filling positions in the public service as a reward for party service and without regard to the character and capacity of the individual selected is a gross breach of a solemn public trust. A private trustee so dishonouring his office would be subject to punishment by the criminal law.

OUR BOYS

DEAD

LOUIS DE NOAILLES,

Killed at the Yser,
November, 1914.

PAUL HUMBERT,

Killed at Perthes-les-Hurlus,
Jan. 8, 1915.

A. NICHOLSON,

Killed Jan. 26, 1915.

CHESTER S. FRASER,

Died Feby. 5, 1915.

WOUNDED

M. DORGAS,

At St. Feri, Sept. 18, 1914.

GEORGES P. HUGUET,

At Ville-sur-Turbe,
Sept. 25, 1914.

PRISONER

YVES RIOUX.

FROM ILIUM TO ITHACA.

Some time, or when the globe of Earth shall have thrice more encircled the God of Day, this most imperfect oracle, called *The Civilian*, will have completed ten years of its pilgrimage. In the year 1908, *The Civilian*, Ulysses-like, if our friends and lovers will yield us so god-like an archetype, set out from the flame-riven towers of Ilium for the pleasant fields of Ithaca and the warm welcome and soft embraces of Penelope, queen of fidelity and virtue. The intervening years have been heavy with events. We have fallen in with the Lotus Eaters and have witnessed the effects of enervating tasks,—tinctures of lethargy and forgetfulness. Again, we have invaded the cave of the Cyclops and fought the powers of monopoly. We have met the enchantress Circe and have been lulled into insensibility by promises and false hopes. We have visited The Shades and communed

with the dead, with some feigning death and with others feigning life. And the Sirens! We have heard the song of the Timid and the Bold. The plaint of Timid Siren is that the proper term is not the "Civil Service" but the "Silent Service"; the vociferous Bold Siren desiring that the Government be damned. Escaping the lure of these various Sirens, we set sail for Sicily and on Thursday, March 4, in steering our bark between Scylla and Charybdis were drawn into the whirlpool of party politics. In thiswise it happened:—

On Sunday, February 28, an editor of *The Civilian* wrote an article entitled, "Is the Service Overmanned?" On Tuesday, March 2, the article was transformed into type, and on Thursday, March 4, in the afternoon, the great presses were printing it. By an unhappy coincidence, at the very moment when the presses were printing this article, the subject of it was becoming a matter of stern political debate in the House of Commons.

Except by destroying the whole product of the presses on that afternoon, the contretemps became inevitable and so for the first time in our experience, to our knowledge, *The Civilian* became apparently partisan in a question dividing the two great parties. It may seem hardly necessary to assert that we possess the one virtue without which our existence as a publication is impossible, viz,—non-partisanship in politics. Nevertheless the breach we committed on March 4, while accidental and unintentional, was apparent to ourselves and to many of our friends and also no doubt to members of the Government. We therefore take this earliest opportunity of solemnly stating that neither on this occasion, nor on any other occasion, have we published an item intended to have a party significance. While holding strong views upon the subject of patronage, we have always endeavoured to make our references as broad as the Dominion and as wide

as the expanse of time that stretches from July 1st, 1867. In justification of this attitude it is fit and proper to add that our estimate of a waste of \$5,000,000 in the cost of our public service was based proportionately upon an estimate struck over ten years ago, when the present Opposition was in power. Servants of the Crown do not possess, and in our humble opinion should not possess, any political rights beyond the depositing of an unostentatious and silent ballot. Having told this simple, plain, unvarnished story, let us continue our allegorical journey from Helen, the lascivious to Penelope the meritorious and pure in heart.

Shipwreck and delay are decreed by the immortal gods. Succour is to be enjoyed with thankfulness. Malice is to be endured with fortitude. Neptune is to avenge the injury wrought against his favourite. Aælus is to befriend us and afterwards give us over to despair. The Phæacians are to furnish us entertainment and the means to continue our journey. How long shall we be detained on Calypso's Isle? The soft caress of the nymph and the lascivious pleasing of the lute, lull our senses into forgetfulness. Promises of release are sung upon the lute; postponement of our hopes are played upon the lyre. Then there alights upon a Heaven-kissing hill Minerva, the goddess of Wisdom, with guerdon from the Olympic god for passage to Ithaca.

After decades of hazard we arrive to find Penelope still faithful but surrounded by importunate suitors, who seek to break her allegiance to her lord. The task of disposing of these interlopers and despoilers is now before Ulysses. Minerva, goddess of Wisdom comes to his assistance and he succeeds.

Interpretation.

Penelope is emblematic of Merit, the merit desired in the King's service in Canada, pure and undefiled

and impervious to the designs of interest and avarice.

Ulysses represents the Civil Service, strong, adventurous, ready to overcome any barrier to reach the goal,—*The Merit System*. Storm-tossed, persecuted by the gods and men, he succeeded.

The importunate suitors who plundered Penelope, who loved her for her estate, are the patronage hunters who surround Canadian Governments, "who prize good living more than love of God or King."

In Laertes and Telemachus we find the indestructible attachment of two staunch guardians of the honour of Penelope and Ulysses. In Sir Robert Borden and the Honourable William T. White we discover two well-known lovers of the attributes distinguishing the virtuous Penelope. Like Laertes and Telemachus, these ministers of Canada are surrounded by those who oppose the Merit System in appointments to the King's service. Like the Ithacan heroes, they are hoping and praying for the interposition of Minerva, the goddess of Wisdom, and for the safe home-coming of Ulysses.

Has the guardian seraph, the goddess of Wisdom, a place among Canada's household gods? Will the two just stewards in the Canadian vineyard of King George, be faithful unto death. Permit not, O Zeus, permit it not that the shroud of Penelope be used as the winding sheet of a meritorious cause, but rather let it confound the enemies of King George as it confounded enemies of the Ithacan Penelope.

Then Circe will no more turn her visitors into swine, but instead transform them into beautiful birds and flowers,—into Birds of Paradise and the Glory of the Morning. Then, one day, there will arise a Canadian Virgil who will compose a new "*Arma virumque cano*." Then Minerva, seeing a Minister of Canada doing his duty, will rise in the Council Cham-

ber of the Olympic gods, and, Bacchus having done his part, will raise aloft a chalice to,—

A man—

"*How noble in reason! how infinite in faculty! in action how like an angel! in apprehension how like a god! the beauty of the world! the paragon of animals!*"

Correspondents of Ottawa newspapers have been explaining the hard situation of the men of the Messenger class of the inside service. This is a class with which *The Civilian* has the most sincere sympathy. As has been pointed out, messengers in some departments are doing work which properly belongs to other grades of the service, yet they have no prospect of advancement in grade nor any expectation of increase in remuneration. Their position is one of the crying anomalies of the service at the present time. No class suffers more from the hold-up of the Civil Service Bill. *The Civilian* can extend no word of comfort to the messengers, but would strongly advise all young messengers to endeavour to qualify for clerical appointments.

NOTES OF CANADA.

Canada has about 13,800 post offices. During 1914 offices were permanently closed at the rate of one per day owing to the development of rural mail delivery.

* * *

Nearly thirty-one thousand miles of steam railway are in operation in Canada. For ten years past this total has been increasing at an average rate of a thousand miles per year.

* * *

Canadian railways carried over forty-eight million passengers last year.

* * *

Canadians posted 673 million letters and 64 million postcards last year.

"ONCE MORE UNTO THE BREACH."

Forty per cent of the students of the Manitoba Medical College have enlisted for service at the front.

Argonaut Rowing Club of Toronto has sent fifty-three men to the war.

The coarsest khaki is more honourable to the wearer than the finest broadcloth.

The Army needs Men,—more men,—Canadian men.

Lord Roberts did his duty. Are you doing yours?

We shall win,—but you must help.

You're proud of your friends in the army, of course, but what do your friends think of you?

"Go out, I say, and fight while the honor and glory of volunteering is yours. Don't wait to be driven like cattle to the slaughter. Go out and fight like men, as Britain's sons have always fought."—*Lady Maxwell*.

"You know that you are needed now—not to-morrow, but to-day—you who sit at home and sun yourselves in the false glamour of the foolish motto: 'Business as usual.' This is not business time, it is war time; not the time for making money, but the time to fight your country's foe. Will you be left behind with the scum and the dregs?"—*Lady Maxwell*.

Has your soldier-friend's name appeared in the Roll of Honour? If not, it's *your* fault.

Your King and country need your aid. What are you doing to help them?

No man is worthy of freedom except the man who is prepared to die for it.

The young man who, to-day, refuses to play a manly part, will see the day when his son will be ashamed of him.

If you cannot join the army, get a recruit.

Some 6,000 men, women and children met at the Ottawa Arena last week and yelled hysterically at a number of young men disporting themselves. Might not this necessary duty be performed by the women and children and others incapacitated from the manly exercises. The remainder, those between 20 and 30, unfettered by ties, would be free to subscribe their names to Canada's Honour Roll, so that General Hughes might boast that 100,000 more Canadian-born men have volunteered than are necessary.

A GREAT TELESCOPE FOR CANADA.

(By the courtesy of Dr. W. F. King, chief astronomer, *The Civilian* is able to give the following particulars regarding Canada's great new telescope.)

* * *

A reflecting telescope with the main mirror 72 inches in diameter, which is considerably larger than any in existence, and which will be a great asset for Canada, was ordered by the authority of the Government through the good offices of Hon. Dr. Roche in October, 1913. After extensive investigations into climatic conditions in different parts of the country it was decided to locate the new telescope near Victoria, B.C., where the astronomical conditions requisite for a large reflector are specially favorable. Fifty acres of land around the summit of Saanich Hill, about eight miles

north of the city, were purchased and a road to the site is being built by the Provincial Government. A permanent water supply for the institution is being installed and building operations are to start in the spring.

Good progress is being made with the construction of the mounting of the telescope. The heavy steel castings and forgings for axes, tube, and bearings of the telescope are being made for the Warner and Swasey Co. by the firms in Cleveland and Pittsburg best adapted for this work. These parts will be completed early this year, when the shop erection of the mounting will begin. The parts of the driving clock, the slow motions and all other operating details are now being constructed by the Warner and Swasey Co. It is confidently expected that the mounting will be completed by October next.

Excellent progress is also being made on the great disc for the main mirror of the telescope. This disc when received at the work of the J. A. Brashear Co. of Pittsburg, contractors for the optical parts, measured $73\frac{5}{8}$ inches in diameter, $13\frac{5}{8}$ inches in thickness, and weighed 4,926 lbs. It was cast in Belgium, and Dr. Brashear states that it started from Antwerp about a week before the war broke out, and in due time landed in New York. The Pennsylvania Railroad was about a week finding a suitable car to transport it to Pittsburgh, as the package was an enormous one, the crate adding 1,200 pounds to the weight. Then it was some time before an iron waggon could be got to take it to the workshop, and on arriving there the six-foot doorway had to be removed to admit the disc, stripped of its packing case. But at least it was safely placed on the grinding table which had been prepared for it.

Then the first operation was to grind off the edge, and in doing so about half a cubic foot was removed. The grinding was done with a 30-inch steel circular saw, rotated so as to

touch on the side of the saw near the edge, coarse emery mixed with crushed steel being supplied to it. The steel cuts about three times as fast as the emery. After about three weeks' labour the edge was successfully trued up and preparations were made for grinding out the central hole which was just six inches in diameter on the upper side, tapering irregularly. Flexible cutters were used at first so as not to endanger the disc by undue pressure. The cutter was shaped somewhat like a letter S, and was rotated about an axis through its middle, and the wings being so curved they readily yielded to any extra pressure coming upon them. In this way the hole was bored out to nine inches in diameter, when cast-iron cylindrical cutters were put in place of the sheet steel cutters, and in a short time the hole was enlarged to over ten inches. Its edge was then smoothed up and made exactly square with the surface, and after that the top edge of the hole was bevelled off. This work of enlarging and smoothing off the central hole was the most dangerous part of the operations and happily it was done with complete success.

The upper and lower surfaces will next be made plane, and then that surface which seems the best will be ground into its parabolic form. The more the disc is examined the better it seems to be, and hopes are high that it will prove a great success.

Her Party Speech.

Lucille was a carefully-brought-up little girl of five, and she returned in high glee from her first party.

"I was a good girl, Mamma," she announced.

"Did you remember to say something nice to Mrs. Applegate just before leaving?" asked her mother.

"Oh, yes, I did," responded Lucille. "I smiled at her and said: 'I enjoyed myself very much, Mrs. Applegate. I had lots more to eat than I 'spected to have.'"

TORONTO POSTAL CLERKS' BANQUET.

By W. Christie.

The postal employes of Toronto on Thursday, Feb. 18, to the large number of three hundred entertained at a banquet, given at the Hotel Carls-Rite the officers and men of the Second Overseas Contingent encamped at the Exposition Grounds, who are members of the Canadian Postal Service.

Guests to the number of forty accepted our invitation and the attendance from all ranks of the service exceeded all expectations, crowding to capacity the excellent banquet hall of the Carls-Rite.

Postmaster W. B. Rogers, Chairman, when all had reached their places, called upon Mr. Jacob Moerschfelder, a native of persecuted Alsace-Lorraine, and the oldest clerk in length of service, to say grace, who implored the Divine blessing and guidance upon our fellow-employees who were sacrificing home, family and friends and prayed the Almighty to strengthen with fortitude and bless their relatives.

All having done justice to the ample menu, the Chairman arose amid cheers and briefly thanked all present who by their large numbers had responded to the opportunity to show in such an enthusiastic manner appreciation of our members who have so nobly responded to the Empire's call to fight in defence not only of King and Empire but in defence of the Christian civilization of Europe itself, against policies which are barbarous, and wished a happy return to all who were going to take a glorious part by exposing themselves to the loss of every comfort, and even life, to defend a righteous cause.

Mr. J. S. Boddy responded to the "Empire," in which he recounted the glories, civilization and freedom of British Government which were now

evidenced so strongly by the response of Britain's sons from all quarters and across all seas, to the aid of a beneficent Motherland.

Mayor Thos. L. Church expressed his thanks for this invitation to be present on such an occasion and assured all that he was pleased to meet so many of the postal service who had volunteered. His Worship stated he had always a great regard for post office employes and expressed the hope that conditions of public service would be improved after cessation of hostilities to the benefit of those who have stood faithfully by their duties to the country, and promised he would see that the Canadian Municipal Association would make representation to the Government for improvement of the Civil Service. "Do your duty bravely. The greatest heritage to humanity is the British Empire. I am proud of men who have done their duty in peace and war."

Crown Attorney Corley, responding to "Our Guests" returned thanks and laughingly reminded those present that he was responsible for the appointment of our popular Postmaster, as he was in charge of the Conservative organization that defeated him for parliamentary honors. He expressed pride of citizens in the postal service and congratulated those who are going and able to go who will boast of helping to bind the British Empire and secure the freedom of the world.

Lieut.-Col. Geo. Ross, Chief P. O. Superintendent, responded upon behalf of the Postal Corps, tendering thanks for this very thoughtful treat and entertainment so generously provided by the members of the Toronto Post Office. He recalled Bismarck's abhorrence of red spots upon the world's map and hoped that the ever-increasing response to duty's call by the Empire's manhood would permit the Allies to quickly vanquish the unscrupulous invaders and permit the

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EVERY woman realizes that the first step in fashionable costuming is in the direction of a corset. And every physician, trained nurse or intelligent woman, whether her knowledge of womanly anatomy be much or little, knows that the road to good health is along the corset route. We are accustomed to speak of the sons of Adam and the daughters of Eve. Assuming that Adam had several sons apart from those recorded in sacred history, as there were more types of men in the world than the characters of Cain, Abel and Seth would justify, it is safe to assume that Eve must have had many daughters, judging from all the types of women there are, although Holy Writ is curiously silent about these daughters. However, the fact remains that there are many types, and corsets are produced to suit every type. It is all a matter of proper individual selection. All corsets are no more alike because they are made from boned fabrics than all women are alike because they have skins. There must be discrimination, and women must be educated to discriminate. The careful stocking and discrimination of corsets are as important a factor of our business as the selling of them. We are extremely fastidious as to the character of the corsets we sell, and employ experts to select them for and fit them to the patrons who wear them. Our new season lines are all to hand, and include:

Gossard Front Lace Corsets.

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Madame Irene and Successo Corsets.

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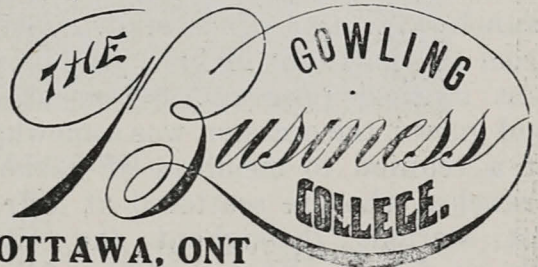
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the best in its history. Why not take advantage of the dull times and prepare for the wave of prosperity that is bound to sweep over this great Canada of ours when the war is over?

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W. E. GOWLING, President.

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map printers who are idle to publish the new map of Europe.

Controller Joseph Thompson, as an honored guest, received with "For he is a jolly good fellow," and cheers, regretted Mayor Church had absorbed five minutes given to himself which he was now getting accustomed to; but he assured all of his pleasure at being present on this memorable occasion. He recalled that the first in the service to serve Canada and Motherland was James Kennedy, the generous native who in South Africa was willing to absorb about a dozen bullets that others might have received. All honor to men of the post office who are to fit in Kitchener's machinery.

Capt. Eccleston, Assistant Inspector, in brief and well chosen words expressed the thanks of his men for our hospitality.

Lieut. Hardling tendered appreciation of all ranks for the kind invitation and entertainment so generously provided by the Toronto office and felt sure this evening's enjoyment would be long remembered, and called upon his men to give three cheers for Toronto Post Office.

At midnight ended without doubt the most enjoyable entertainment ever launched by this office staff. Aside from the patriotic feature, the excellent musical program, the speakers and guests, the occasion was somewhat of a reunion to members of various branches who are scattered at different stations throughout the city. Cheers for the King and the Allies brought the banquet to a close.

Letters of regret at inability to be present were received from Lt.-Col. Logie, O.C., Lt.-Col. Elliott, A.A.G., and from Asst. P.M. W. E. Lemon, whose absence was noted and regretted by all; he having in obedience to doctor's orders, through an attack of la grippe, his first ailment in a score of years, to forego this memorable function.

Banquet Committee.

W. B. Rogers, Chairman; W. L. C. Allwell, Secy.-Treas.; W. E. Lemon, Jos. Wright, E. Westman, W. Sparks, J. Aikens, R. Durston, J. S. Boddy, W. E. Davis, W. Christy, A. J. Rosenburg, F. W. Davies, G. O'Donoghue, Geo. M. Ross, E. A. Stuart.

VANCOUVER POSTAL CLERKS SMOKE.

Forgetting for the moment the worry of deciphering almost illegible addresses and of collecting extra postage on under-stamped letters, three hundred employees of the City Post Office and their friends enjoyed a delightful three hours in Pender Hall last evening as the guests of the Vancouver branch of the Postal Clerks' Association of Western Canada. The occasion was the second annual smoking concert of the organization. Mr. R. G. Macpherson, the postmaster, presided and the programme included a number of unusually fine musical selections by the Post Office orchestra and individual artists. The guests included Messrs. H. E. Harrison, assistant postmaster; R. F. Drummond, senior mail clerk; N. Hatt, railway mail service, and J. Metcalf, president of the Letter Carriers' Association, together with the members of the Railway Mail Clerks' Association and the Letter Carriers' Association. The speeches of the evening, some serious, others given in a humorous vein, were full of good-fellowship and indicated in a large measure the spirit of co-operation existing between the employees of the various branches of the department here. "Canada has not yet done all she is going to be asked to do for the Empire," said Mr. Macpherson, in proposing the toast to "The boys at the Front." "But I have no doubt that whether they are called upon to die in the trenches or to give their last dollar at home, the

people of Canada will do their share." The postmaster referred to the fact that 25 post office employees had now enlisted in the First and Second Contingents. Had 50 men been asked for they would have been forthcoming, for rather than having to urge employees to enlist he had to keep them back. Appreciative mention was also made of the fund provided those who had enlisted. The orchestra, which gave nearly a dozen selections during the smoker, indicated careful training on the part of the director, Mr. N. Williamson, and great artistic ability among the members themselves.

Selection, Favourite French Songs
..... Orchestra

Toasts.

Selection, "Homestead Melodies"
..... Orchestra

Song, "The Veterans' Song"
..... Mr. McGregor

March, "Soldiers of the King" Orchestra
Song (Selected)..... D. McCulloch

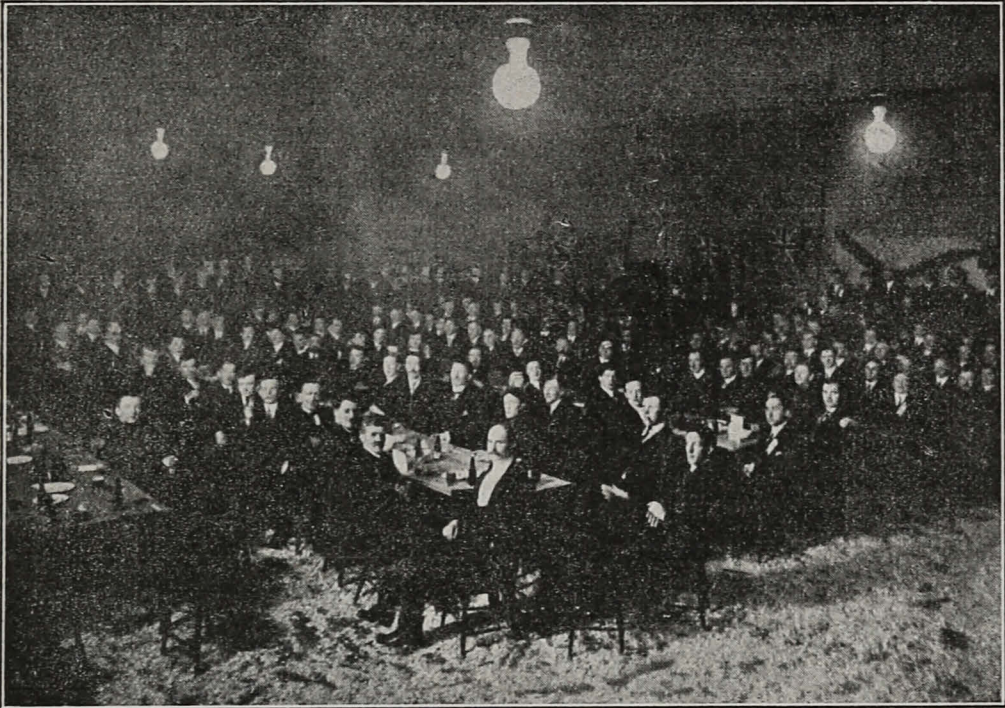
Two-Step, "This is the Life"..... Orchestra
Accompanist, J. E. Holden.

"GOD SAVE THE KING."

Orchestra

Under the Direction of Mr. N. Williamson.

Violins:	Oboe:
N. Williamson	C. W. Askam
S. Spence	Flute:
M. Gill	J. Cunningham



"Smoker" at Vancouver.

Programme.

Preliminary, "Maple Leaf Forever,"
..... Everybody
Overture..... Orchestra
Song (Selected)..... J. C. Clucas
March, "Boys of the Old Brigade,"
..... Orchestra
Nash's Nonsense..... S. Nash
(The Popular Vancouver Mimic)
Two-Step, "I Want to go Back to Michigan"
..... Orchestra
Song, "The Best Old Flag on Earth,"
..... Mr. W. F. Eve
Guitar Selection... W. McLellan Moore
Song, "Here's to the Day,"
..... Mr. Arthur Ainsley
(Or We've Got a Mailed Fist, Too)
Recitation..... A. Strang

Cello:

A. H. Caplin

Basso:

A. Hislop

Bassoon:

G. Goss

Trombone:

A. Peebles

Clarionets:

M. Morgan

H. Shearer

Cornet:

C. Tossell

Xylophone and Drums

L. Holland

Piano:

J. Holden

Committee:

Messrs. H. Cairns, Pres.; F. H. Middlemiss, Vice-Pres.; A. S. Black, Sec.; H. S. Lyon, Treas.; A. E. Davidson, J. Cunningham, J. W. Jones, S. Nash, N. Williamson.

MANITOBA RAILWAY MAIL CLERKS' ASSOCIATION.

The regular monthly meeting of this association was held on March 6th. The President, Mr. Kneebone, was in the chair. The Secretary read the correspondence, and gave an account of the financial results of the recent concert and dance held on Feb. 10th, which was a decided success. The Secretary read the copy of a letter sent to Mr. Kavanagh, regarding the turning of mail cars, etc. Mr. Kneebone explained that these matters were receiving the attention of Mr. Kavanagh. The matter of steel mail cars and the present cars being placed between the engine and from three to four steel cars was discussed, the meeting deciding to leave it with the Executive for their early attention. Mr. Sadd moved, and Mr. Armstrong seconded, that "we ask the clerks in the North Bay division to join our association, and that they be asked to appoint a committee of three or four clerks to attend to matters in their division, the head of same to be given a place on our Executive, and to be known as a Vice-President."—Carried. Mr. Chislett moved, and Mr. J. McPherson seconded, that "we nominate a Committee to discuss with the Postal Clerks and Letter Carriers associations regarding the holding of an united concert and dance, this Committee to have full power to close any arrangements."—Carried. Mr. Borland nominated Messrs. Grant Armstrong and A. H. Hamill, who were elected. Mr. Borland moved, and Mr. McPherson seconded, that the Secretary write to the Civil Service Federation Secretary to ascertain if the bill recently brought before Parliament regarding the total disfranchisement of civil servants at election was passed, and for any information on the subject. Mr. Sadd moved, and Mr. Macdonald seconded, that "we purchase an 'Honour Roll' to have the names of all members who

have gone to war inscribed on same and hung in the mail clerks' room."—Carried. Mr. Macdonald moved, and Mr. Borland seconded, that ballots be drawn up and sent to all members asking them to vote in favor of either a football or baseball team for this year, as it is practically impossible to man two separate teams.—Carried. The President read a communication from Mr. Halladay re presentation to our late Postmaster General, Hon. L. P. Pelletier.

The meeting then adjourned.

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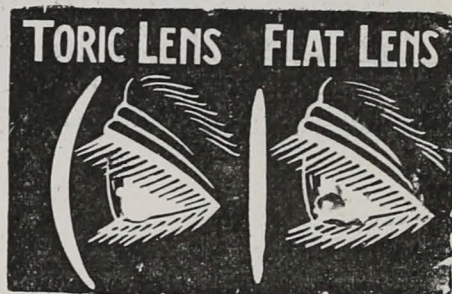
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SALISBURY PLAIN

"Last March I began your courses in Latin and French, but after sending you some of my work I was obliged to discontinue my studies. I would now like to finish my courses and ask you to kindly send me again the first books, as I left mine behind me in Canada."

LIEUT. M. (Nova Scotia Highlanders),
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Minds are improved by exercise.
Minds are enlarged by thinking as
muscles by working.—Amos R. Wells.

WITH THE SECOND CONTINGENT.

By a Civil Servant.

The Battalion had a long route march to Gananoque the other day, leaving Kingston at 8.15 a.m. and getting to their destination at five o'clock the same day. Although the roads were none of the best, the men were in the best of spirits all the time, and to see them taking in the sights of the little town the same evening no one would have imagined that they had marched all the way from Kingston. They were billeted in the armouries, School hall, Presbyterian church hall and the Odd-fellows' hall, eating in the armouries where a small advance party had collected tables and chairs against their arrival. The transport section arrived about 4.30 p.m. and immediately the company cooks who came with them started to get the food ready, and all things were prepared when the hungry mob came to their quarters. Each man had two blankets rolled in his waterproof sheet, which was carried by the transport; in these he slept during the night, and we were all comfortable and warm. Next morning we left Gananoque at 8.30, getting to Kingston at 4 o'clock, and in good shape. On the way both coming and going songs were raised while marching at ease; a very popular one started on seeing any farmer with a bearded face began "There was an old man called Patsy Finnegan, He grew whiskers on his chinnegan . . ." Another was concerning that champion benedict and widower, Henry VIII., and was sung with gusto. Major MacLean when riding down the line at one halt was saluted with "The Galloping Major," to which he listened with a smile. We had an hour for our dinner, which was most welcome, and consisted of "Mulligan,"

or Irish stew, bread and butter, oranges, and coffee. The latter was not as hot as it might have been, but with the new field kitchens which are being purchased, through the generosity of the people of Eastern Ontario, this will be impossible.

The response made to the appeal of the colonel and officers for these same field kitchens has been most liberal, and it is thought that we will have at least four of them, thus ensuring the wellbeing of the non-commissioned officers and men on service. The sum asked for, \$10,000, will be easily raised from what I hear about the rate of receipt of money from town and village bodies, Patriotic Societies, city corporations, schools, and the general public.

The week of 22-26 February will be a busy one for the Battalion, as there is a carnival to be held in Kingston during those dates, in which the regiment will play a large part. Through the kindness of the people of Kingston, we are to be presented on the date first-named with colors (King's and Regimental), and all through the week there are sports and events of all kinds. Owing to railroad fares being reduced to meet the occasion, many friends of the military are expected, and in this manner we shall have a great "send-off." The colors are the work of a Toronto firm, and are such that any battalion might well be proud of; the device on both of them is the same as our cap-badge, namely a maple leaf bearing the numerals "21" surmounted by a crown, and encircling the device are the words "21st Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force."

I suppose that the Civil Service took "French leave" or otherwise, to have a peep at the Victoria Battalion being inspected by the Duke of Connaught? We hear they looked very well indeed; "fine big men" was a verdict I heard passed by one who saw them in Ot-

tawa. It may be that we shall also be seen when passing through the Capital City; for my part I would be glad to have a last look at my place of abode.

"I remember, I remember, the office's drowsy hum,
The little desk at which I sat, 'cause
I was forced to come;
You ask me 'Did I sign the book'
each morning sharp at nine?
Alas, my friend, I came in late—living
down the line."

Excuse this sudden burst; frenzies of this sort sometimes overtake me, but thank Heaven they don't last long. Did you say "And a good thing, too?"

I wonder if any of your readers saw this jest in "Punch"? A newly promoted lance corporal at a depot was detailed to take a class of recruits in musketry, and among his orders is this gem: "W'en I says FIX, yer don't fix; but w'en I says BAY'NITS, yer w'ips 'un out, wops 'un on, and lets 'un bide there awhile."

On the 23rd we are to be inspected by the O. C. 3rd Division; we ought to be able to stand inspection by this time, having had so many. This may be one of the final inspections that we shall have while here; at any rate we all hope so. Kingston may be all right in summer, but it is rather like what Sherman called war in winter. Still the inhabitants do what they can to make us feel as happy as possible, so I will not throw bricks. In my next contribution, I shall have much to tell you about the rest of the week; I will now tell you in brief about the presentation of colors to this Battalion.

On the evening of the 22nd the Battalion paraded at 7.30, marching straight to the Armouries by way of Princess street. On entering in column of route, the large floor-space

was soon occupied to the strains of music, furnished by the R. C. H. A. band, which had been discoursing music for half an hour. The galleries were filled to overflowing by friends of the Battalion, and on the platform in the centre were Major Duff, A.D.C. to the Duke of Connaught, Mrs. Sam Hughes, Mrs. W. St. P. Hughes, Trooper Mulloy, of South African fame and his wife, the Mayor of Kingston, and many other well-known persons. The Armouries were festooned with flags and presented a charming sight. Soon, to the impressive strains of the hymn "O God, our help in ages past" came in the robed choir, followed by church dignitaries and His Lordship the Bishop of Kingston. Then followed the presentation of the colors by the Veterans' Association of Kingston, and the solemn ceremony of consecration by the Bishop, and the presentation of the colors to the Battalion, they being received by two subaltern officers on bended knee. Colonel Hughes thanked the donors of the colors in his usual able and courteous manner, and the colors were escorted to the Tete du Pont Barracks for safe custody, by the left half Battalion with fixed bayonets; at the same time the right half Battalion placed their rifles in their recreation room, and the whole Battalion marched back to the Armouries, where we were entertained by speeches from various eminent persons and songs from Mrs. Mulloy. There was a display of physical drill by a selected team from the Battalion, followed by an exhibition of visual signalling by the Battalion signallers, led by "Bill" Hazlett, the signalling sergeant. The R. C. H. A. band then played the national airs of the Allies and we marched to the market square, where there was a fireworks display, getting to quarters at 10 p.m., "lights out" being a half-hour later than usual.

SIR ROBERT AND THE HALIFAX PLATFORM.

In the House of Commons on Thursday, March 11th, a series of questions relating to the Civil Service plank in the Halifax platform were asked and answered. The questions were asked by Mr. Devlin and replied to by the Prime Minister. An extract from Hansard reads as follows:

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Mr. DEVLIN:

(1) Did the Right Honourable, the Prime Minister when leader of the Opposition make the following statement at Halifax?

"A thorough and complete reformation of the laws relating to the Civil Service should be put into effect, so that future appointments shall be made by an independent commission acting upon the report of examiners after competitive examination. I am convinced that we shall perform a great public duty by establishing in this country that system which prevails in Great Britain, under which a member of Parliament has practically no voice in or control over any appointment to the Civil Service.

"To use the power of filling positions in the public service as a reward for party service and without regard to the character and capacity of the individual selected, is a gross breach of a solemn public trust. A private trustee so dishonouring his office would be subject to punishment by the criminal law."

2. If so, what was the object of making such a statement?

3. Have any appointments to the Civil Service been made since October, 1911? If so, how many?

4. If any, have the appointments to the inside or outside service been made upon the recommendation of a member of Parliament?

5. What steps, if any, has the Prime Minister taken to implement the above mentioned Halifax pledge?

Sir ROBERT BORDEN:

1. The language quoted consists of certain statements detached from their context but is substantially correct.

2. To impress the importance of the subject upon the people and upon the Government then in power. The purpose had considerable success as the then Government within a few months thereafter introduced the reforms effected by the Civil Service Act of 1908.

3. Appointments have been made to the Civil Service since October, 1911. A return to be brought down as soon as the necessary information has been compiled will indicate the number.

4. Appointments to the inside service are made upon the certificate of the Civil Service Commission under the provisions of the Civil Service Act. Appointments to the outside service are made upon the responsibility of the Government and after careful inquiry as to the character and capacity of the individual selected. For the purpose of obtaining such information the Government is ready to receive assistance from members of Parliament or from other persons who are capable of giving reliable information as to such character and capacity. The recommendation of a member of Parliament or any other person is not alone or of itself sufficient for the appointment of a public officer, as character and capacity must be taken into consideration by the Government.

5. The public steps which have been taken by the Prime Minister are within the knowledge of the hon. member asking the question, as they are on record in Parliament. As to other steps which have not yet been made public, any necessary announcement will be made in due course.

Justice discards party, friendship, and kindred, and is therefore represented as blind.—*Addison*.

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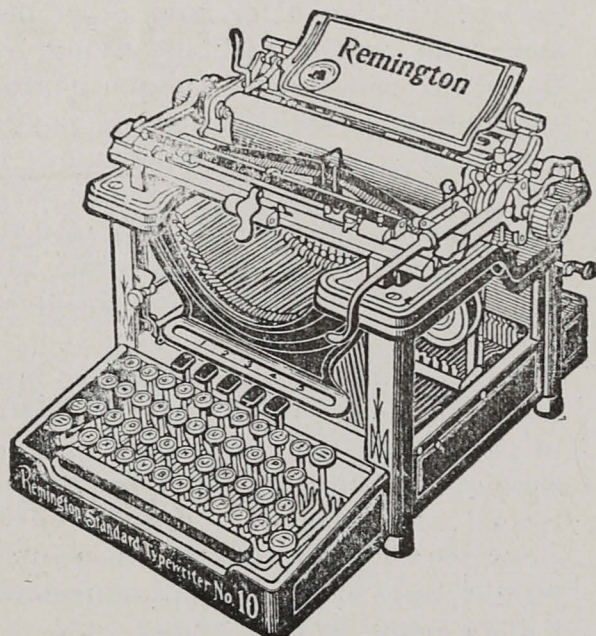
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THE INCOME TAX.

There will be joy among civil servants over a recent victory scored in the income tax controversy. Judge Morson of Toronto is the hero, and the latest decision of the courts will reinforce the determination of civil servants to continue protesting. The incident may be well understood by reproducing a press despatch of Mar. 4th as follows:

The default judgment obtained against Judge Morson by the city of Toronto for unpaid income tax was set aside here to-day by Judge McGillivray. Mr. R. A. Reid attended before the County Judge and argued the matter on behalf of Judge Morson, and the case will now be tried on its merits. An execution has been issued against the city of Toronto on behalf of Judge Morson and the bailiff authorized to seize sufficient goods and chattels belonging to the city in order to satisfy a judgment amounting to \$79.60 due and owing to Judge Morson for income tax paid by him under protest. Interesting developments in this matter may happen at the City Hall when the bailiff arrives in the office of the City Treasurer.

The certain way to be cheated is to fancy one's self more cunning than others.—*Charron*.

Haste trips its own heels, and fetters and stops itself.—*Seneca*.

ESCAPED FROM GERMANY.

The following press despatch from London concerning one of our civil servants interned in Germany has been received:

London, March 13.—C. F. Just, trade commissioner for Canada at Hamburg, formerly emigration official here, reached England after having been under military and police surveillance in Hamburg since the opening of hostilities. Mr. Just at first succeeded in getting a passport to return home, but was stopped at the railway station, and after seven months' waiting has now been exchanged for a German consul anxious to return to Germany from South Africa. Mr. Just says nobody in Hamburg is allowed to know anything about the war or the outside world except through heavily censored newspapers.

Mr. Just has for years been a subscriber to *The Civilian*, and his copy began to return soon after the war began. The readers of *The Civilian* may hear something of interest from the pen of Mr. Just.

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AT THE FRONT.

The following letter written from the firing line by a civil servant with the Princess Patricias to a friend in Toronto presents the human or inhuman features of war:—

Queen's Canadian Military Hospital,
Beachborough Park, Shorncliffe,
Kent, Eng., Feb. 17th, 1915.

My dear Jim:—

It is quite a while since I have had the opportunity to write, so I will attempt to give you some idea of where I have been and what I have seen since last you heard from me. We left Winchester on Sunday morning, the 20th of December last, marching straight to the Southampton Dock, where we boarded a cattle boat by name the "Cardingshire". Leaving at 6 p.m. we arrived at Havre in the early hours of the following morning, though we did not disembark until late in the same evening. We then marched to our camp on a hill just outside of that city. The following evening we marched to the station and entrained in small cars, 20 x 6, and in view of the fact that 46 were in our car, you may well imagine there was little room to spare. The journey in this car took us over 24 hours. We passed through Rouen, Calais until we reached our destination — Argues — from whence we moved on to our billet some six miles away. Our first two days were fairly quiet except for the continual boom of the guns in the distance. Our first occupation was that of digging trenches, which we pursued for nine days. We dug 26 miles of trench in all. On January 5th we left for the front. During our march we passed the graves of 350 men of the Warwicks and a vast number of the brave fellows from the Coldstream Guards. The Germans had machine guns in the towers of the various churches and wrought great havoc amongst the ranks of the Warwicks. Arriving at Dickebusch, in Belgium, we lay hid-

den behind hedges until dark, when we immediately took our places in the trenches. My trench was not more than 75 yards from those of the enemy, but those of the third and fourth companies were but a distance of 20 yards or so. I was standing on an object, which I at first thought was a sack of some sort, but later discovered to my horror that it was the corpse of some poor Frenchman. Next morning I could see dead men as far as the eye could reach. Some of them I found had been lying there since the 14th of December.

Next day we received our christening of shrapnel and howitzer shells. Fortunately no one was killed, though several were badly injured by flying splinters and by sods torn up by the explosions. Shrapnel shells come along with a fast whizzing sound, but the howitzers approach with a slow singing sound. The latter do frightful damage when they strike. Three dropped into our trench, but fortunately for us all failed to explode, or I would not be writing this now. Everything is done at night. One enters the trench, leaves it and draws one's rations, all under the cover of darkness. This is a wise precaution in view of the wonderful powers and accuracy of the enemy snipers. Some of the roads are so badly cut up with shell fire that the transport waggons cannot get within two and a half miles of the trenches. Small parties going for rations usually have the most casualties. Fry from Toronto was the first one killed of the P.P.C.L.I. He, poor chap, was shot through the back. Captain Newton next met a similar fate from a German explosive bullet. Both these casualties were the result of snipers. After 54 hours in the firing trench we were relieved by the K.R.R's, who lost very heavily in relieving us. One poor fellow, after exclaiming "I am hit" dropped dead at my feet. Marching back about one and one-half miles we entered the dugouts. They are not the most com-

fortable, there being only room in which to lie down in them. I believe the firing trench to be the safest place if one is to be in the range of action. The shells that were coming around our dugout were terrible, and the frightful part of it is that one is huddled in them like a rat in a trap. There is no means of escape. Jim, it would make your heart bleed to see the fearful devastation of beautiful Belgium. Heaps of dust, brick and stone are all that is left of what were once magnificent churches, residences, colleges, etc. The sight of it all is heartrending. After three days and nights in the dugouts I was taken to the hospital at Boescheffe, after which I was transferred to Boulogne, suffering from a combination of enteric, pneumonia, bronchitis and frozen feet. I spent three weeks in the hospital there when they sent me to the hospital given as my address above. I am getting on fairly well, though I still feel extremely weak and am still unable to place my feet to the floor. In order to be moved from one place to another I am carried around like a baby. I shall be glad, however, to be able to get back with the boys again, which I hope will be my fortune so soon as I am fully recovered. We have, I hear, lost heavily of late and I fear our ranks are getting very thin. The doctors tell me it will be fully three weeks before I shall be able to place my feet on the ground, but the time will soon pass. I do not quite understand how our feet freeze so easily as the trenches are nearly always filled with water up to the knees. I am afraid we shall hear of a lot of casualties even after this war

is over. There are so many live shells in the ground that the danger of them being struck by the plowshare when the husbandman returns to his duties seems to be certain and will undoubtedly entail a large loss of life. I am afraid some of the glowing charges credited to us in the newspapers are a trifle exaggerated. A man with a heavy overcoat and 100 pounds strapped to his back is possibly not quite so fleet of foot as the papers would give us credit for. However, whilst taking some of the reports with a pinch of salt, you may rest assured we are upholding the glory of the Dominion to the very best of our ability and with every drop of our blood. One night in particular we have to thank a merciful Providence for. It had been very wet and the trenches were abominably muddy—so much so that our rifles became choked, the bolts were blocked and we could not get the cartridges out of the magazines. Had the Germans come on us then, I shudder to think of the unavoidable slaughter. However, as they did not, the issue is not important.

And now Jim, good friend, I must write a line or two to some of the others, so will leave you for awhile. I shall be delighted to hear from you as soon as you can spare the time to write. Give my kindest regards to all the boys and accept the same and very best wishes for yourself, believing me,

Your sincere friend,
OSCAR.

The interests of childhood and youth are the interests of mankind.—*Janes.*

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Personals.

The following list includes changes in the personnel of the Service during the month of January, 1915, as far as obtainable. Division (Div.) refers to Inside Service only:—

Appointments.

Agriculture.—R. A. Nicholson, Exper. Fms., Div. 2B.; R. H. Helmer, Supt. Exper. Sta., Summerland; Miss D. A. Argue, Div. 3B.

Customs.—The following Prev. Officers:—W. L. McKenzie, Preston; J. Auger, Hull; Wm. Miller, Brockville; Jos. M. Hebert, St. Johns, Que.; L. A. Leduc, Montreal; A. F. Dubrule, Esther M. McClelland, Prev. Officers, Bd. of Customs.

Interior.—Paul Howard, Asst. Controller Chinese Immig.; Jas. Lawler, Forestry, Div. 2B.; Miss B. Gerard, Accounts Beh., Div. 3B.; W. K. Thompson, Lds. Pat., Div. 2B.; N. A. Thompson, Topo. Sur., Div. 2B.

Inland Revenue.—Jules Lemoine, Dep. Coll., Quebec; E. S. Grignon, Insp. W. & M., Ottawa; W. A. Hardy, Excise, Belleville; J. F. Smith, Dep. Coll., Dundas, Ont.

Finance.—E. T. Langdon, Div. 3B.

Militia.—F. P. Brown, Div. 3B.

Mines.—Miss M. G. Brown, Div. 2B.; E. S. Malloch, Div. 2A.

Post Office.—The following to Class 3, Grade B:—Jean G. Bruneau, P.O.I., Quebec; Harry Cardwell, Toronto; Richard H. Filkin, Roger H. Strumm, Saskatoon; Roy H. Wallace, Toronto; Miss Alma Labreche, M. O. Exchange Office; Louis O. Paquet, P.O.I., Quebec; Richard Parks, Clarence A. Scott, William H. Johnston, Wilfrid B. Schultz, William A. Haight, Toronto; Miss Millicent Hogg, Supt. R.M.S., office Calgary; Charles C. Pascoe, Frank Booth, Calgary; Clifford Webb, Alfred O. Gibson, George Thomas Grant, William Henry Usher, Regina; Miss Lois Mary Allen, P.O.I., Halifax; G. E. Goodall, T. A. Kinnaird, Edmonton; Miss Isabel Scott, T. W. Davison, R. M. Somerville, H. W. Caswill, Winnipeg; G. H. Hallett, W. N. Morley, Calgary; W. P. Angus, J. H. Jackson, Moose Jaw; G. Yelland, C. H. Peart, Vancouver; Miss Alice Pope, New Westminster; B. M. Poyner, P.O.I., Saskatoon; Miss Alma J. Mattson, P.O.I., Edmonton; Miss Claudia E. Mix, Ottawa; Wm. Jas. Wilkinson, John Cogswell, Victoria; Bernard A. Hechler, Halifax; Alexander H. Nichol, P.O.I., Calgary; Miss S. V. Hawkins, P.O.I., Rosaire Frechette, Sherbrooke; Louis P. Camire, Miss M. W. Y. Fortier, Romeo Villeneuve, Jos. Olivier Bacon, Jos. G. A. Gagnon, Edwin Gibson, Lucien Gagnon, Supt. R. M. Service, J. Henri Beauchamp, James Mooney, Quebec.

Post Office.—The following Ry. M. Clerks:—Frederick Albert Hockey, Rob-

ert Crawford, Errol Cameron Allan, Frank Leonard Cook, Donald Thompson McCallum, Harold William Coursey, Herbert Allan Kathrens, Calgary; John Thomas Miller, Saskatoon; Nehemiah Riedy, Calgary; William Egbert Rear, Vancouver; Gerald Flood Smith, Jas. Thos. B. McElroy, Calgary; William Joseph Gagné, Athanase Lamarre, George Herman Leggett, Ottawa; Robert John Vint, Calgary; Chas. Arthur Grobb, John Arthur Huntley, William Ross Morden, Frederick Wm. Byers, Winnipeg.

Public Works.—Miss E. M. Dunham, Div. 3B.; S. G. Tackaberry, Div. 2B.

Privy Council.—E. A. Bryenton, Div. 2B.

Promotions.

Customs.—S. W. Wilkins to Surveyor, St. John; Chas. F. Tilley to Chief Clerk, St. John.

Interior.—Miss C. A. Wilson, T. & G., to Div. 3A.

Inland Revenue.—S. Beneteau, to Dep. Coll., Windsor, Ont.

Inland Revenue.—E. J. Morgan, G. MacDonald, W. Sutherland, Vancouver; W. W. Currie, P. J. Fegan, W. G. Greig, T. W. Hammond, Winnipeg; G. G. Love, E. Monforton, G. O'Neil, Windsor; H. F. Abbott, Toronto; A. Ballentine, Jr., P. J. Griffin, H. D. G. Henderson, J. O. Hiscott, J. L. Mitchell, Hamilton; J. C. MacKay, J. T. Oliver, Toronto; W. Pleasance, J. T. Robinson, London; A. B. Shorey, Toronto; A. Uffelman, Guelph; C. E. A. Webbe, London; Chas. Granton, Prescott; J. E. Lally, Belleville; E. McNally, Prescott; F. W. Sprague, C. B. Treverton, Belleville; J. A. Lamoureux, J. A. Lesperance, Montreal; J. R. Filteau, O. E. J. Martineau, W. Poitras, Quebec.

Marine.—Miss M. E. Blyth, to Div. 3A.

Rys. and Canals.—J. W. Weir, to Div. 3A.

Public Works.—Miss M. N. Stewart, Miss V. O. Brown, Miss W. Fyles, to Div. 3A.

Post Office.—The following at Ottawa to Class 2B:—T. G. Butler, O. Benoit, T. J. Leblanc, Claude Lascelles, Hector Dupuis, John Joseph Murphy.

B. Stapleton, David Wm. Farr, Hamilton.

Transfers.

A. V. Sturgess, from Outside to Inside Public Works; C. L. Bendeler, Customs, from Windsor, N.S., to Regina.

Superannuations.

H. R. Little, Ry. M. Clerk, Halifax; Irenée Girard, Inland Rev., London; Geo. F. Matthew, Customs, St. John; Edward Lee, Inland Revenue, London.

Resignations.

Justice.—Miss Laurence Fleury.

Post Office.—A. W. Cooke, Regina; J. A. E. Couture, Quebec.

Rys. and Canals.—H. K. Bowes.

Customs.—Mrs. G. McNab, Winnipeg;
M. G. MacVicar, Collector, Saskatoon; J.
S. Carstairs, Inspector.

General.

Lance Corporal A. G. Viets of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, brother of R. Veits of the Finance Department, is reported wounded in action. His wound is near the eye and not serious.

W. E. Tupper of the Department of Trade and Commerce, who has been confined to a hospital by illness, has returned to his home in Digby, N.S.

Rupert Hunter, son of Richard H. Hunter, accountant in the Branch of the Surveyor-General, has given his life for his country. He enlisted in the First Contingent and went to England with that force. Exposure brought on pneumonia and the gallant young man breathed his last in an army hospital. *The Civilian* extends its sincere sympathy to the bereaved father.

W. E. Lemon, assistant postmaster, Toronto, is confined to his home with an attack of la grippe.

Obituary.

Mrs. William Wilson, wife of the postmaster of Chatham, N.B., died in Montreal on March 12th after several weeks' illness.

The death occurred in Toronto on March 12th of Carrie L., wife of John A. Kirkpatrick of the Post Office Department.

Walter Lorne McEwen of the Ottawa City Post Office died on March 13th after several weeks' illness of rheumatism, aged twenty years.

J. H. Lanthier, for many years an employee of the Government Printing Bureau, died on March 14th, aged fifty-two years.

Died, suddenly, in Toronto, on Tuesday, March 9th, William John Little, beloved husband of Mary (Duffy) Little, and son of James Little, late of the Post Office Department.

WM. HIMSWORTH DEAD.

William Himsworth, I.S.O., late deputy minister of Inland Revenue, passed away on March 10th. He was in his 8th year.

Mr. Himsworth was born at Montreal on Dec. 23rd, 1847, the only son of the late W. A. H. Himsworth, a clerk of the Privy Council. He received his education in Toronto and Quebec and also was graduated from the Royal Military School at Quebec. In 1880 he married Julia Emily Easton, daughter of James Easton, of

Belleville, Ont., who predeceased him twenty-one years.

In June, 1868, Mr. Himsworth entered the Civil Service and in 1875 he became a first-class clerk. In 1884 he was made chief clerk of his branch, and in the same year was appointed secretary of the Department of Inland Revenue. In 1913, Mr. Himsworth received his appointment as deputy minister, but retired last year, owing to failing health.

On June 3 last, he was included in the King's birthday honors and received the decoration of the Imperial Service Order.

He is survived by one son, Charles Gordon Himsworth, and one daughter, Miss Elsie Himsworth, both of Ottawa; also one sister, Lady Egan, wife of Sir Henry Egan.

"An able and meritorious public officer," was the tribute paid deceased once by the late Sir H. G. Joly de Lotbiniere. Mr. Himsworth was ever painstaking, conscientious and loyal in the discharge of his duties to the public.

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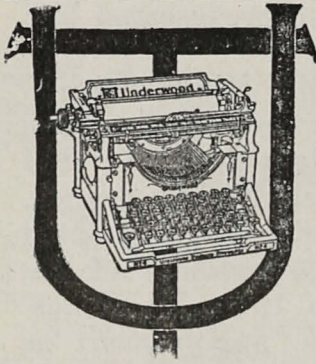
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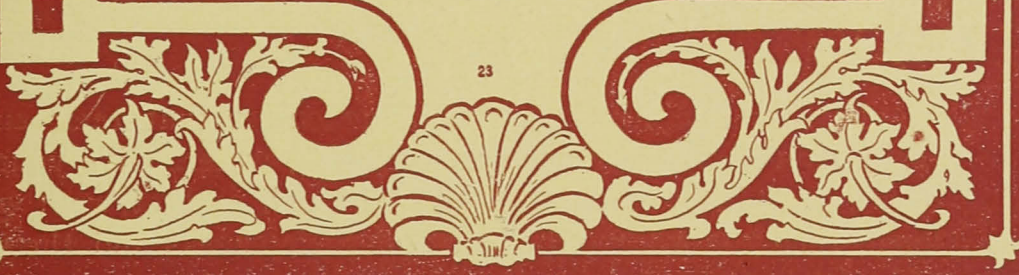
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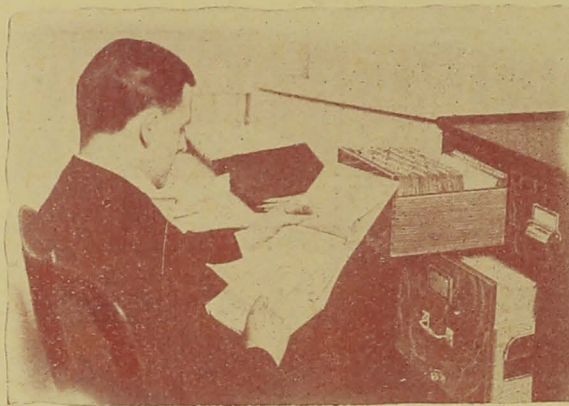
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